



Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (BEST)

What's New

11 January 2005

- **TSP Open Seasons Eliminated Effective 1 July 2005.** Public Law 108-469, signed into law 21 Dec 04, eliminates Thrift Savings Plan open seasons. This legislation will allow you to elect, change, or stop TSP contributions at any time. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board will implement this law on 1 Jul 05. This means there will be one more open season: 15 Apr – 30 Jun 05. Newly hired employees under the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS) must still serve a waiting period before they become eligible to receive agency contributions to their accounts. In addition, the law does not affect contribution allocations or interfund transfers, which can be made at any time via the [TSP website](#) or [ThriftLine](#). Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.
- **TSP Hopes to Make New "Lifecycle Funds" Available Mid-2005.** Not actually a new fund, the lifecycle funds are "target asset allocation portfolios" which will hold a mix of the five funds currently available. The mix of funds is chosen based on the date you expect to need your money for retirement. The Thrift Board is still working out the details. In the meantime, take a look at the series of questions and answers on the lifecycle funds on the TSP website at <http://www.tsp.gov/curinfo/specint/LFC-Qs&As.html>.
- **Thrift Savings Plan Rates of Return for December 2004.** The following chart represents the change in respective share prices for all the funds for Dec 04. The changes in share prices reflect net earnings after accrued TSP administrative expenses, trading costs and accrued investment managements fees have been deducted. Percentages in () are negative returns. The G, F, C, S, and I Fund returns for the last 12 months assume unchanging balances (time-weighting) from month to month, and assume that earnings are compounded on a monthly basis. For more information, including share costs, go to the TSP Homepage at www.tsp.gov and click on "Returns, Share Prices, & Fund Sheets."

	G Fund	F Fund	C Fund	S Fund	I Fund
December 2004	0.38%	0.97%	3.36%	4.17%	4.38%
<u>Last 12 Months</u> (1/1/2004 - 12/31/2004)	4.30%	4.30%	10.82%	18.03%	20.00%